

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Number : 09/982,531 Confirmation No.: 8179
Applicant : Astrid Vrang et al
Filed : October 19, 2001
Title : IMPROVED FERMENTATION METHOD FOR PRODUCTION OF
HETEROLOGOUS GENE PRODUCTS IN LACTIC ACID BACTERIA
TC/Art Unit : 1636
Examiner: : Nancy S. Vogel

Docket No. : 54320.000011
Customer No. : **25570**

**SECOND RESPONSE/AMENDMENT TO A FINAL OFFICE ACTION
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 AND PETITION FOR THREE MONTHS EXTENSION OF TIME**

Mail Stop Amendments
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants respectfully petition for a three-months extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for responding to the Final Office Action mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") on May 3, 2007 in the above-identified patent application ("the Application"). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the required small entity fee, in the amount of \$ 525.00, or any other necessary fee, to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-2478. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the time for response be extended up to and including November 3, 2007.

In response to the Office Action of May 3, 2007, the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 C.F.R. 1.121) and the Advisory Action of September 20, 2007, Applicants are submitting this Second Response/Amendment to a Final Office Action Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 ("Second Section 116 Amendment"). The Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment ("Notice") indicated that text added in claims 1 and 30 in the Response/Amendment to a Final Office Action Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 of July 18, 2007 ("First Section 116 Amendment") was not underlined. Applicants have amended the claims, and underlined the added text in this Second

Section 116 Amendment. Applicants are resubmitting the entire corrected Amendment, pursuant to the instructions in the Notice.

Amendments to the claims begin at page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin at page 11 of this paper.